Direct Train Service from Murkongselek to Delhi

1. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have been receiving requests to start a direct train connection from Murkongselek to Delhi;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not starting such a train service; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend North Eastern Express, Kamrup Express, A. T. Mail and Tinsukia Express trains to Rangia Junction, Assam?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present 5813/5814 Guwahati-Murkongselek Arunachal Meter Gauage Express running *via* Rangia Jn. provides connection to 2521/2522 N.E. Express to/from Delhi at Rangia Jn. This service is considered adequate.

(c) All these trains run on the Broad Gauge *via* Rangia Jn. upto Guwahati. Due to change of gauge, it is not feasible to extend these services from Rangia Jn. upto Murkongselek.

Survey of Arunachal Pradesh to Find out Iron Ore Reserves

2. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has made any survey of Arunachal Pradesh to find out the existence of iron ore, mica, uranium, coal and limestone reserves;

(b) if so, what are the findings thereof with particuar reference to the location where these deposits are available together with the quantum and quality thereof; and

(c) by when their exploitation is likely to be started by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) Geological Survey of India (GSI) has been conducting mineral surveys in Arunachal Pradesh since long. As a result of these surveys significant deposits of coal and limestone have been located in different parts of Arunachal Pradesh. The details of coal and limestone deposits discovered are as under:—

COAL:

Coal in the Namchik-Namphuk coalfield is located in the Tirap and Changlong districts. The coal contains high volatiles, high sulphur and low ash. The estimated reserve is 90.23 million tonnes.

LIMESTONE:

Limestone occurs in the Tidding belt of Lohit district and it is suitable for manufacture of cement. A total reserve of 140 milion tonnes of limestone has been estimated. Occurrences of a few other high silica-high magnesia limestone deposits and marble deposits have also been found. Notable among these are the marble deposits in Tezu area in Lohit district and Kabbu limestone deposits in Along Valley of Siang district. Limestone from these deposits is suitable for use in lime kilns.

(c) Exploitation of the mineral deposits located by Geological Survey of India, by Government or private agencies depends upon techno-economic and other factors.

"किसान घाट" का विस्तार

3. श्री सत्य प्रकाश मालवीय : क्या शहरी विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत के भूतपूर्व प्रधानमंत्री, चौधरी चरण सिंह के शवदाह स्थल "किसान घाट" के विस्तार के लिए क्या योजना है;